



## BeltLine Westside Trail Public Open House

Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>

### Presentation:

- Showed Eastside trail as an example: Before & After photos and future renderings.
  - Lots of vertical connections to existing roads/corridors.
  - Construction photos (illustrating minimal impact to nearby property)
    - They landscape properties

### Question & Answer:

Q: How many minority contractors are a part of development?

A: So far, they've only entered into a design contract (but as a baseline employs 12% DBE enterprises). Their first source will be a jobs program – new folks are employed within communities.

Q: Who monitors the hiring?

A: Atlanta Workforce Development Authority, internally, and Georgia Department of Transportation

Q: Please address: sidewalk from University Ave to Atlanta Technical College; programs/plans for animal concerns (stray cats); temporary/permanent jobs created.

A: No number yet on the number of jobs that will be created, but we will publish that information when we have it. There is currently no program in place but we will reach out to local groups. The trail only goes to University Avenue.

Westside Trail:

- It passes by 5 schools
- There are several parks along the trail including Washington, Mozley, and Enota.
- Other trails are Lionel Hampton and the PATH Foundation trail
- It connects to existing MARTA stops
- It is extending from the original plan of Allene to University Ave.

Q: What will be the impact on Washington High? Any planned investment?

A: That is a question for the City, we can't work on public schools.

Q: Why was this particular path chosen?

A: A portion of the process is land acquisition, design, remediation, and construction. Different portions of the BeltLine are in different stages. This area is 3 years ahead of schedule. The Westside was a win from a federal funding standpoint.



Goals:

- Trail plus transit from Allene to Murphy
- TIGER provides \$18 million towards total \$43 million for the Southwest 2.5 miles of the trail.
- 16 accessibility points
- Connections to 4 parks
- Lighting and cameras through a partnership with Atlanta Police Department
- Currently doing environmental engineering studies

Q: How is Proctor Creek affected?

A: Right now, studies are very high-level but mitigation will occur at a smaller level

Q: Washington High is in a floodplain and a wetland. How will stormwater be affected?

A: This is a trail project, we're not dealing with air issues etc. We are not familiar with Washington High or their issues either. We are studying the effects on our corridor – and it will help our area but they may or may not affect Washington High.

Q: Where are you coming out in West End?

A: On White St, not Donnelly. The Master Plan is assuming major redevelopment from other sources. We can build trails when transit comes along. Look at Subarea 1 map if you're interested.

Q: What is the impact on residential displacement and when will the project be done and how can I help neighbors get jobs?

A: An impact on intermittent streams leads to stream restoration. MLK bridge is a historic resource that we will demolish, we need to put in sidewalks and replace the bridge. There will be no housing displacement, we are only purchasing a vacant property and doing Right of Way acquisition (purchasing properties for construction easements). It needs to happen and there will be no permanent impacts, just impacts on temporary access. We are working with Atlanta Workforce Development Authority and The Center for Working Families (Green Jobs Program) for about 3 years, but won't know more about your question until the contractor comes on board in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

Q: 1. What's going on with Kroger? 2. What's going on with the Lucille Bridge?

A: 1. Access to Ralph David Abernathy, the ramp into the corridor at Kroger (goat path). 2. Structural assessments, the long term is still unsure.

Q: 1. What are the economic development and Annie E. Casey Foundation potential for year-round recreation? 2. Are off-leash dog parks in the plans?

A: 1. We are doing outreach to residents through the Atlanta BeltLine Partnership, doing a rain barrel donation program through the City and if you have additional items send them to Beth McMillan. Building trails spurs economic



development, we're just funded for building trails, we hire for construction and act as a magnet. We work hand in hand with Invest Atlanta. 2. No.

Q: What is the distance from Washington Park, Washington High, and the Proctor Creek headwaters?

A: Respectively, 0 miles, 5 blocks, and at them. We are impacting Proctor Creek through the work culvert at Enota Park.

Q: How can I be involved with health and fitness?

A: Check with Atlanta BeltLine Partnership.

Q: CDC published a report about 2005 health/safety of economic impact assessment. Have you taken its recommendations into consideration?

A: Can we have access to the impact studies? We will get back to you if you provide it to us. One of our core values is to clean up the area and give it to back to the community.

C: A public thank you for repairing the trail at Adair Park.

Q: What about parking?

A: There are no plans for additional parking. We try to understand neighborhood street use. We may do a parking survey to understand issues and work with Public Works.

Q: Do you work with MARTA for parking? Can you reiterate steps to address increases in property taxes?

A: Working with a collaborative land trust, can work with the City, we're aware that homeowners aren't taking full advantage of opportunities.

Q: There are differences between east and west. For example, vacancy. Can we have advanced conversations about this?

A: Yes, we will have conversations with our existing groups.

Q: You have the best 3 miles of trail in Atlanta for running.

A: Part of the reason for that is soft shoulders. We didn't have funding or fully fleshed out material choices/ We will go back to doing trail runs and ask for your feedback.

- Suggestion: Tires! We have a ton that need to be picked up off the streets, out of creeks, recycled, and resued.

Q: Are you reaching out to AUC?

A: Through Cycle Atlanta yes. We gave presentations to students and they have served as fellows with us and we had conversations with them.



Q: What's going on at Maddox Park?

A: Soon, we'll be rolling out a study that covers 17 years. Right now, we're not actively designing.

Q: Will there be lush landscaping and amenities such as doggie bags?

A: We have to go between maintaining funding and amenities. Westside will have things like benches which aren't on the Eastside. We will be coming out more when we get further into design and will show 6 renderings – from 1 day after construction to 5 years after completion.

Q: We need trees in the watershed, why are you cutting them down? Are you implementing green infrastructure?

A: We try and exceed the City's green infrastructure requirement. We work with Trees Atlanta and get their advice on historic stuff etc.

Q: Is there a relationship between Enota Park and Trail?

A: It is in the first-tier of projects in strategic implementation plan.

Q: You are constantly looking for funding. How can we support and help?

A: The Board adopted the plan, the Partnership raises private money. Volunteering is the best thing you can do and be an advocate.

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